Decline in Imports

41. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in India's total imports during the period April-December, 91 as compared to the period from April-December, 90; and

(b) what are the names of the countries and products where the decline has taken place and their value in both years in US dollars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India's imports during April-December, 1991 amounted to US $ 17962 million as compared to US$ 14272 million during April-December, 1990, thereby registering a decline of 20.5% in dollar terms.

(b) The country and commodity details are available for period April-November, 1991. A statement indicating the names of the countries and products where the decline has taken place and their value in US dollar during April-November, 1991 is attached.

Statement

Import of Principal Commodities: April-November 1991-92

(US $ Million)

S.No.	Commodities	April-Nov. 1990 (P)	April-Nov. 1991 (P)	%age Change
1	2	3	4	5
I.	TOTAL IMPORTS	15609.90	12380.92	−20.7
II.	BULK IMPORTS	6682.92	5419.51	−18.9
	i) Cereal & Cereal preparation	66.59	38.93	−41.5
	ii) Fertilizer	702.96	721.49	+2.6
	a) Crude	142.55	128.56	−9.8
	b) Sulphur & Unroasted iron pyrites	104.00	83.10	−20.1
	c) Manufactured	456.41	509.83	+11.7
	iii) Edible Oil	138.70	53.91	−61.1
	iv) Sugar	5.28	0.21	+96.0
	v) Pulp & waste paper	170.50	77.25	−54.7
	vi) Paper board and Manufactures	63.65	40.17	−36.9
	vii) Newsprint	107.37	110.10	+2.5
	viii) Crude Rubber	93.63	44.56	−52.4
	ix) Non-ferrous Metals	424.81	208.04	−51.0
	x) Metalliferrous ores and Metal Scrap	468.28	219.27	−53.2
	xi) Iron & Steel	763.28	573.93	−24.0
	xii) Petroleum, crude & products	3677.87	3325.78	−9.6
III.	PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES	1321.62	1324.64	+0.2
IV.	MACHINERY	2768.64	1688.31	−39.0
	i) Machine Tools	153.48	116.99	−23.8
	ii) Machinery other than electrical	1294.87	937.52	−27.6
	iii) Electrical Machinery	647.13	372.89	−42.4
	iv) Transport Equipment	673.16	260.91	−61.2
V.	PROJECT GOODS	689.23	850.40	+23.4
VI.	OTHERS (of which)	4147.50	3098.06	−25.3
	i) Wool raw	72.06	477.00	+561.9
	ii) Silk raw	40.55	33.89	−16.4
	iii) Synthetic & regenerated fibres	23.71	14.40	−39.3
	iv) Pulses	179.07	72.79	−59.4
	v) Coal, coke and briquettes	288.52	268.29	−7.0
	vi) Non-Metallic Mineral manufactures	87.34	56.74	−35.0
	vii) Other Crude Minerals	70.44	52.61	−25.3
	viii) Organic and inorganic chemicals	1045.99	897.78	−14.2
	ix) Dying tanning and colouring materials	67.06	42.29	−36.9
	x) Medicinal and Pharmaceutical products	119.15	111.76	−6.2
	xi) Artificial resins, plastic materials	383.96	367.26	−4.3
	xii) Chemical materials and products	104.20	73.09	−29.9
	xiii) Textile yarn, fabrics and made-up articles	182.67	98.44	−46.1
	ixv) Manufactures of metals	137.01	93.59	−31.7
	ix) Professional instruments etc.	410.15	271.19	−33.9

Imports by Regions and Principal Countries: April-November 1991

(US $ Million)

		April-Nov. 90	Apr.-Nov. 91	%age Change
I.	WEST EUROPE	4959.25	3934.49	−20.7
(i)	ECM	4495.15	3575.69	−20.5
	(a) Belgium	955.34	880.50	−7.8
	(b) France	527.88	349.47	−33.8

1	2	3	4	5
	(c) FRG	1155.98	927.08	−19.8
	(d) Italy	394.82	315.43	−20.1
	(e) Netherlands	266.67	180.56	−32.3
	(f) UK	1042.68	831.68	−20.2
			309.12	−21.0
(ii)	EFTA	391.44	309.12	−21.0
	(a) Sweden	123.56	114.24	−7.5
	(b) Switzerland	150.76	88.83	−41.1
(iii)	OTHERS	72.66	49.67	−31.6
II.	ASIA & OCEANIA	6452.32	5442.44	−15.7
(i)	ESCAP	3570.40	2858.79	−19.9
	(a) Australia	556.03	393.10	−29.3
	(b) Iran	343.35	370.73	+8.0
	(c) Japan	1176.38	911.09	−22.6
	(d) Korea, Rep. of	220.05	189.45	−13.9
	(e) Malaysia	375.65	220.58	−41.3
	(f) Singapore	442.43	417.46	−5.6
	(g) Nepal	13.91	20.73	+49.0
	(h) Hongkong	110.69	64.32	41.9
	(i) Thailand	44.07	30.36	−31.1
(ii)	Rest of Asia & Oceania	2881.91	2583.65	−10.3
	(a) Kuwait	205.98	93.18	−54.8
	(b) Saudi Arabia	952.86	938.96	−1.5
	(c) U.A.E.	707.66	846.14	+19.6
III.	AFRICA	501.13	524.68	4.7
	(i) Egypt	25.17	44.35	+76.2
	(ii) Morocco	137.16	231.45	+68.7
IV.	AMERICA	2437.48	1719.78	−29.4
	(i) North America	2094.55	1477.45	−29.5
	(a) Canada	214.02	191.48	−10.5
	(b) USA	1880.55	1285.97	−31.6
(ii)	South America	263.62	190.68	−27.7
(iii)	Other American & Caribbean Countries	79.31	51.66	−34.9
V.	EAST EUROPE	1262.31	756.57	−40.1
	(i) Ruppe payment Countries	1122.32	648.15	−42.2
	(a) USSR	954.26	599.08	−37.2
	(b) Others	168.07	49.07	−70.8
(ii)	Non Rupee Payment Countries	139.99	108.42	−22.6
	(a) Yugoslavia	62.14	33.77	−45.7
	GRAND TOTAL (Incl. Others)	15609.90	12380.92	−20.7

(P): Provisional
Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta

Export and Import in Rupee and Dollar

42. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what were India's total exports and imports during the period April-December, 1991 in terms of rupees and US dollars;

(b) what was the trade gap again in rupees and US dollars;

(c) what are the comparable figures for the year 1990;

(d) what were the exports and imports in both the years in US dollars to and from the General Currency Area;

(e) whether there is a decline in exports to the General Currency Area; and

(f) if so, the products and markets which have registered this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The details of exports, imports and trade deficit, in Ruppes and Dollars for the period April-December, 1991, with comparable figures for April-December, 1990 are given below:

	Rupees Crores		US Dollars Million	
	Apr.-Dec. 1990	Apr.-Dec. 1991	Apr.-Dec. 1990	Apr.-Dec. 1991
EXPORTS				
GCA	18785	27133	10635	11310
RPA	4404	3199	2494	1333
TOTAL	23189	30332	13129	12643
IMPORTS				
GCA	29472	32516	16686	13553
RPA	2252	1722	1275	718
TOTAL	31724	34238	17961	14271
TRADE DEFICIT	8535	3906	4832	1628

(e) No, Sir. The exports to the General Currency Area increased by 44.44% in Rupee Terms and 6.34% in Dollar Terms.

(f) Does not arise.

Loss due to fraud in import of Newsprint

43. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India suffered a loss of foreign exchange to the extent of Rs. 3 crores due to fraud in import of newsprint recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against officials found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Government have noted a newspaper report dated Feb., 9, 1992 that a "massive fraud in newsprint import involving a loss of atleast Rs. 3 crores worth of foreign exchange in a single deal has come to light."

Assuming that the Question relates to the same matter, the facts are as follows:-

(i) STC purchased 9000 MTs of glazed